

unless Theobald failed to note the band on the second abdominal segment in the type of *butleri*, in which case *lugubris* is probably a synonym of *butleri*.

If the male considered here to be *lugubris* is not *butleri*, it is possible that *umbrosus* is a synonym of *butleri*, as there is nothing in the descriptions of *butleri* or *diurna* to exclude it and as both *butleri* and *umbrosus* are recorded from Malaya. Furthermore, Barraud described and figured the female genitalia of *butleri* from India, and his figure and descriptions agree well with the specimens here considered *umbrosus*.

Edwards (1913) made *Stegomyia hatiensis* Carter (known from females only) a synonym of *butleri*. In his original description of this species, Carter (1910) stated that the scutellum of *hatiensis* has "scales similar to those covering the greater part of the head," which would imply that the scutellar scales are flat. If this is true, *hatiensis* does not belong in this subgenus, and is probably a *Skusea*.

These questions can not be satisfactorily settled until the genitalia of the type females of *butleri*, *diurna*, and *hatiensis* have been studied.

The species considered *umbrosus* in this paper can be separated from the four specimens mentioned as having been identified by Edwards as *butleri*, but which are probably *lugubris*, by the male and female genitalia, by the absence of a narrow transverse subbasal white band on the second abdominal segment

of the female of *umbrosus* and its presence in the other species, and by the extent of the hairy area of the lower part of the mesepimeron (usually extending below the scale patch in *umbrosus*, confined to a posterior row behind the scale patch in *butleri*).

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ZOOLOGY.—*Capt. M. S. Briscoe's collection of reptiles and amphibians from Harbel, Liberia.*<sup>1</sup> ARTHUR LOVERIDGE. (Communicated by HERBERT FRIEDMANN.)

Through the courtesy of Dr. Doris M. Cochran, I have been able to examine the herpetological collection made by Capt. M. S. Briscoe, part of which was presented by him to the United States National Museum, part to the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and the remainder to Howard University. The collection contains a very large example of *Thrasops occidentalis*, the only specimen of this rare tree snake in any museum in the United States. There are no fewer than ten other species of snakes not

taken at Harbel by the Smithsonian-Firestone Expedition of 1940, which collected there. Captain Briscoe is to be congratulated on taking advantage of this opportunity to extend our knowledge of the herpetofauna of the Republic of Liberia.

#### LIZARDS

##### *Varanus niloticus ornatus* (Daudin)

1803. *Tupinambis ornatus* Daudin, Hist. Nat. Rept. 8: 353; Malimbe, Cameroon (restricted by Mertens).

juv. (U.S.N.M. 122266)

<sup>1</sup> Received April 8, 1946.

This 360 (135+225) mm monitor, having five transverse rows of spots between fore and hind limbs, conforms to this race as defined by Mertens (Abh. Senckenberg. Naturf. Ges., No. 466:320, 1942) in his recent revision of the family. *V. n. ornatus* is the sylvicoline race, with the typical form occupying the savanna regions of Liberia.

**Mabuya blandingii** (Hallowell)

1844. *Euprepes blandingii* Hallowell, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1844: 58; Liberia.  
1 (U.S.N.M. 122267)

Quite typical of Blanding's skink, of which *frenatus* (Hallowell) is a synonym. Length 185 (75+110) mm.

SNAKES

**Calabaria reinhardtii** (Schlegel)

1848. *Eryx reinhardtii* Schlegel, Bijdr. Dierk. 1: 3, pl. —; Gold Coast.  
♂♂ (M.C.Z. 49014; Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 30–32; ventrals 222 (in both); anal 1; subcaudals 23 (in both); 2 superposed loreals, except on left side of U.S.N.M. 122226; preocular 1, except on left side of M.C.Z. 49014, where there are 2. Larger ♂ 870 (800+70) mm.

**Natrix anoscopus anoscopus** (Cope)

1861. *Tropidonotus anoscopus* Cope, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1861: 299; "Cuba" (error, probably Liberia).  
♂♀♀♀ (U.S.N.M. 122237; M.C.Z. 49015; Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 23–25; ventrals 138–141; anals 2; subcaudals 64–71; preoculars 1–2; postoculars 1–2; suboculars 3. Largest ♀ 565 (425+140) mm.

**Boaedon lineatus lineatus**  
Duméril and Bibron

1854. *Boaedon lineatus* Duméril and Bibron, Erpétologie générale 7: 363; Gold Coast.  
♀♀♀ (U.S.N.M. 122233; Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 29–32; ventrals 216–220; anal 1; subcaudals 50–54; preoculars 2; postoculars 2; temporals 1+2, rarely 1+1. Largest ♀ 779 (680+99) mm.

**Boaedon lineatus virgatus** (Hallowell)

1854. *Coelopeltis virgata* Hallowell, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 1854: 98; Liberia.  
♂ (Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 21; ventrals 60; anal 1; subcaudals 60; preocular 1; postoculars 2; temporals 1+1. Length 360 (305+55) mm.

I have previously recorded both races of the house snake from Liberia; now it appears that both may occur in the same locality. The typical form is a savanna reptile, while *virgatus* with its gray-flanked ventrals and gray subcaudals is a sylvicoline race. This arrangement is paralleled in the Republic by other species like the savanna *Varanus n. niloticus* and its forest-dwelling form *V. n. ornatus*.

**Thrasops occidentalis** Parker

1940. *Thrasops occidentalis* Parker, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 11, 5: 273, figs. 1 and 2a; Axim, Gold Coast.  
♀ (U.S.N.M. 122257)

Midbody scalerows 15; ventrals 187; anals 2; subcaudals 132; labials 8, fourth and fifth entering orbit; preocular 1; postoculars 3; loreal 1; temporals 1+1. Length 1565 (1115+450) mm.

The occurrence of this rare species in Liberia was previously known only from a paratype male from Monrovia. This, the second known female, is not only the largest example known, but is the first of its species to reach any museum in the United States.

Since my revision of the genus *Thrasops* (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. 95: 121–247, 1944) C. M. Bogert has invited my attention to the fact that *Ahaetulla occidentalis* Günther, 1859, was erroneously placed in the genus *Thrasops* by Cope, 1860. As this is a secondary homonym it in no way invalidates Parker's use of the name in *Thrasops*.

**Boiga pulverulenta** (Fischer)

1856. *Dipsas pulverulenta* Fischer, Abh. Geb. Naturw. Hamburg 3: 81, pl. 3, figs. 1a–1c; Edina, Grand Bassa County, Liberia.  
♂ (U.S.N.M. 122230)

Midbody scalerows 19; ventrals 260; anal 1; subcaudals 132; preocular 1; postoculars 2; temporals 2+2. Length 912 (720+192) mm.

**Boiga blandingii** (Hallowell)

1844. *Dipsas Blandingii* Hallowell, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1844: 170; Liberia.  
♂ (U.S.N.M. 122255)

Midbody scalerows 23; ventrals 273; anals 2; subcaudals ?; preoculars 2; postoculars 2; temporals 2+2. Length 1973+ (1730+243+) mm.

This is an exceptionally large example, for Blanding's tree snake rarely exceeds 6 feet.

**Psammophis sibilans phillipsii**  
(Hallowell)

1844. *Coluber Phillipsii* Hallowell, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 1844: 169; Liberia.

♂ ♂ ♀ ♀ (U.S.N.M. 122253; M.C.Z. 49016; Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 17; ventrals 161-175; anal 1; subcaudals 91-97; labials 8, 4th and 5th entering orbit; nasals 2-3; preocular 1; postoculars 2; temporals 2+2 or 2+3. Largest ♀ 1262 (880+382) mm.

**Thelotornis kirtlandii kirtlandii**  
(Hallowell)

1844. *Leptophis Kirtlandii* Hallowell, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 1844: 62; Liberia.

juv. (Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 19; ventrals 174; anals 2; subcaudals 154; preocular 1; postoculars 3; temporals 1+2. Length 632 (395+237) mm.

**Miodon acanthias** (Reinhardt)

1860. *Urobelus acanthias* Reinhardt, Vid. Medd. Kjøbenhavn 1860: 229, pl. 3; Guinea.

juv. (U.S.N.M. 122250)

Midbody scalerows 15; ventrals 188; anal 1; subcaudals 22; preocular 1; postoculars 2; temporals 1+1. Length 186 (170+16) mm. Almost certainly a male, this is about the tenth known example of the species.

**Aparallactus modestus** (Günther)

1859. *Elapops modestus* Günther, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 3, 4: 161, pl. 4, fig. C; West Africa.

♂ ♀ (U.S.N.M. 122229; Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 15; ventrals 143-160; anal 1; subcaudals ?; preocular 1; postoculars 2; temporal 1. Length ?, as tails truncate.

**Dendroaspis viridis** (Hallowell)

1844. *Leptophis viridis* Hallowell, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 1844: 172; Liberia.

♂ ♂ (M.C.Z. 49017; Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 13; ventrals 213-218; anals 2; subcaudals 112-118; preoculars 2+1; subocular; postoculars 3+1 or 0 subocular; lower temporal absent in one specimen, having fused with the labial. Larger ♂, 1760 (1305+455) mm.

**Causus rhombeatus** (Lichtenstein)

1823. *Sepedon rhombeatus* Lichtenstein, Verz. Doubl. zool. Mus. Berlin 1823: 106; no type locality.

7 ♂ ♂, 3 ♀ ♀ (U.S.N.M. 122245-48; Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 19; ventrals 121-137; anal 1; subcaudals 17-22; mostly paired; preoculars 2; postoculars 2; suboculars 1-3; temporals 2+3. Largest ♂, 443 (400+43) mm, and ♀ 431 (395+36) mm.

The rhombic night adder, so common in Liberia, supplied the motif for the pattern on an armlet, worked in black and yellow grass, brought back in 1944 by Dr. J. C. Bequaert from a village near Kolahun, Republic of Liberia.

**Bitis gabonica** (Duméril and Bibron)

1854. *Echidna Gabonica* Duméril and Bibron, Erpétologie générale 7: 1428, pl. 80B; Gaboon.

Head and skin (Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 35; ventrals 132; anal 1; subcaudals 19; upper labials 14-14. A fine large example of the Gaboon viper.

**Atheris chloroechis** (Schlegel)

1855. *Vipera chloroechis* Schlegel, Versl. Akad. Amsterdam 3: 317.

♀ (Howard Univ.)

Midbody scalerows 29; ventrals 157; anal 1; subcaudals 58; interorbitals 10+2 circumorbitals; circumorbitals 18-19; upper labials 11. Length 390 (330+60) mm.

AMPHIBIA

**Geotrypetes seraphini occidentalis**  
Parker

1936. *Geotrypetes seraphini occidentalis* Parker, Zool. Meded. 19: 99; Grand Cape Mountain, Liberia, etc.

1 (U.S.N.M. 122261)

This well-preserved caecilian has 102 primary and apparently 38 secondary folds. In the latter respect it does not conform to Parker's definition of the western race. Length 290 (289+2) mm.

**Rana occipitalis** Günther

1858. *Rana occipitalis* Günther, Cat. Batr. Sal. Brit. Mus.: 130, pl. 11; Gambia (restricted).

3 juv. (U.S.N.M. 122262-3; M.C.Z. 26136)

Ranging in head and body length from 33-40 mm, these are the smallest bullfrogs of this species I have seen. As they lack the characteristic transverse occipital fold connecting the posterior corners of the orbits, they fail to

conform to the key I devised (1941, pp. 13-4 135) to differentiate the nine members of the genus *Rana* found in the Republic of Liberia.

**Megalixalus fulvovittatus** (Cope)

1860. *Hyperolius fulvovittatus* Cope, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. 1860: 517; Liberia.

♀ (U.S.N.M. 122265)

This 26-mm striped sedge frog is quite

typical of the species, with which I have synonymized *Hyperolius vittiger* (Peters).

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## Obituary

GLENN LANE PARKER died suddenly at his home on February 12, 1946, having worked during the forenoon of that day at his office in the U. S. Geological Survey. He was born on December 23, 1884, in the small mining town of Wickes, near Butte, Mont., received his early education in the public schools of Kansas, was graduated in civil engineering by the University of Kansas in 1906, and continued in graduate work at that institution until June 1908. Shortly thereafter he entered the Federal service as deck officer in the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, from which he was transferred on January 1, 1909, to water investigations in the Geological Survey in which he spent the rest of his life. He served first in the Seward Peninsula, and later in the Yukon-Tanana region of Alaska. In April 1911 he was assigned to the Survey's Columbia River district, and in March 1913 he was made district engineer for the State of Washington with headquarters in Tacoma, where he filled this position until October 1939 when he was made chief of the Survey's Water Resources Branch and was transferred to Washington, D. C. He continued in the latter position until his death.

During the 26-year term of service as district engineer in the State of Washington, Mr. Parker became known as an outstanding authority in national and international problems related to the quantity, control, and utility of the waters of the Columbia River Basin. In the following six years, when he was chief of the Water Resources Branch, he served as adviser of the International Joint Commission on problems related not only to the waters of the Columbia River Basin but also to those of the whole Canadian boundary. He served with a Canadian engineer as a two-man board to divide the waters of the Milk and St. Mary Rivers, in accordance with a rule adopted by the International Joint Commission. Since 1944

he served as a member of the International Columbia River Engineering Board, which is investigating the international features of the utilization of the waters of Columbia River. He was active in the studies of water utilization in connection with the recently executed treaty with Mexico which provided for the equitable division of the waters of the Rio Grande and of the Colorado and Tia Juana Rivers between the United States and Mexico. He was appointed by President Roosevelt as the United States representative on the Republican River Compact Commission and in that capacity was active in drafting the compact between the States of Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska for the division and control of the waters of the Republican River Basin.

He was author or joint author of many reports on the Nation's water resources, especially those of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. He was a member of American Society of Civil Engineers and was active in its affairs, having served in important committee assignments and as a director during 1939 and 1940.

On December 16, 1914, he married Grace Imogene Guy, of Washington, D. C., who survives him. Their only son, Lt. (jg) Glenn Guy Parker, who enlisted in the Navy on his graduation from Stanford University in 1941 and became a dive-bomber pilot, was killed on December 27, 1943, by the crash in the Southwest Pacific of a transport plane on which he was a passenger.

Mr. Parker was a hard and efficient worker, a keen analyst of great technical ability, and a cooperative leader in his fields of activity and interest. He became, therefore, a great producer of valuable results in the investigation of the Nation's invaluable water resources. His record of accomplishment is his enduring monument.